10/586158 ;AP20Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 JUL 2006)

## **ANNEXES**

(Amended Sheets) to the Preliminary Examination Report

## 10/586158 AP20Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 JUL 2006

## CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus comprising a tandem pressing line constructed by plural tandem presses (10,20) disposed side by side, and a work conveying apparatus (50; 70) for conveying a work (W) between the adjacent tandem presses,

characterized by:

each of the tandem presses (10, 20) of the tandem pressing line including a bed (11, 21), plural uprights (13a to 13d, 23a to 23d) studded on the bed, and a slide (15, 25) supported on the uprights to be ascended or descended;

the work conveying apparatus including a main member and an arm portion, the main member (35L, 35R; 62, 63) being provided at a portion located inside the uprights of the adjacent one pair tandem presses constructing the tandem pressing line and not interfering with the slide,

the arm member (40L, 40R; 65) being movable between a position to enter into and retract from an upstream tandem press (10), and a position to enter into and retract from a downstream tandem press (20), for transferring the work having been pressed by the upstream tandem press to the downstream tandem press.

- 2. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the main member (62, 63) is disposed in a space formed between the upright (13b) of the upstream tandem press and the upright (23a) of the downstream tandem press adjacent to the upstream tandem press, and including a space existed inside the upstream upright and the downstream upright.
- 3. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the main member (62, 63) is positioned outside a contour of the slide, in the plane view.
- 4. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the main member (62, 63) is fixed to the upright (13b, 23a) located at one side relative to the conveying direction of the work.
- 5. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the main member (35L, 35R) is slidably held by a guiding member provided

inside the upright (13b, 13d) of the upstream tandem press and the upright (23a, 23c) of the downstream tandem press.

- 6. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the main member (35L, 35R), moved to the upstream tandem press or the downstream tandem press, is positioned outside a contour of the slide.
- 7. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the guiding member (30L, 30R) is fixed to the uprights (13b, 23a, 13d, 23c) located at both sides of the slide in a direction orthogonal to the conveying direction of the work.
- 8. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 2 or 5, wherein the arm member (40L, 40R; 65) is a multi-joint arm including two or more joints (42L, 42R, 44L, 44R; 66, 67).
- 9. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the main member (62, 63) is fixed to at an intermediate portion of the upright (13b, 23a) in the height direction, and the arm member is extended laterally from the main member.
- 10. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the guiding member (30L, 30R) is fixed to at an intermediate portion of the upright (13b, 23a, 13d, 23c) in the height direction, and the arm member (35L, 35R) is extended downwardly from the main member.
- 11. (Amended) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 2 or 5, wherein said work conveying apparatus (50; 70) is a conveying robot controlled by a CPU.